

AGN. NO.

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
AND CHAIR HILDA L. SOLIS**

April 5, 2016

Celebrating and Sharing the Culture, Diversity, History and Priorities of Los Angeles County

The County of Los Angeles (County) has a rich history of accomplishments, discoveries, inventions, art, literature, academia, and architecture, to name a few areas, by residents representing a diverse population. Through these accomplishments, tangible assets and treasures emerge stories of perseverance, faith, love of family, and survival which permeates through all cultures and communities. Sharing and celebrating these stories and artifacts will benefit all residents of the County.

At almost every Board of Supervisors' (Board) meeting, the Board proclaims a month, week, or day honoring and recognizing the County's citizens and communities, as well as issues which are of critical importance and relevant to all. These include Black History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Human Trafficking Awareness Month, Adoption Awareness Month, and World AIDS Day, just to name a few. The Board has a responsibility to make these proclamations more meaningful to County employees and to residents in the County. The Board should engage employee affinity organizations which are registered with the Los Angeles County Employee Relations Commission to seek recommendations for opportunities to raise the awareness of these valued communities and issues, with the goal of educating and engaging County residents for the purpose of increasing tolerance and building a stronger and more cohesive County.

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One opportunity, for example, is to initiate a rotating exhibit, comprised of informational items, art, cultural exhibits, historical artifacts, and exhibits at the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration (HOA). The HOA sits in the heart of the civic center, is accessible by public transportation, and is adjacent to Grand Park. It is a building which welcomes the public, and there are public areas where displays and artwork could be shared with County employees and visitors to the HOA. As a potential venue, the 2nd floor has available wall space, on which hangs currently a photographic exhibit honoring the history of the County's parks, as well as floor space which has served previously as the location for standing displays, exhibits and information tables. The HOA could be an ideal initial location for displays of topical, historical, cultural and arts-related exhibits.

The use of social media and County websites could also serve as a platform for sharing similar information throughout the County. Not only could the County publicize County-sponsored events and activities, but could also serve as a link to other cultural, historical and issue-driven activities and events throughout the County.

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Direct the Executive Officer of the Board of Supervisors, in conjunction with the Executive Director of the Arts Commission, to:

- 1) Work with representatives from the employee affinity organizations registered with the Los Angeles County (County) Employee Relations Commission and appropriate Los Angeles County commissions, to develop standards and a process for developing rotating art, cultural, topical and historical exhibits to be displayed in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration;
- 2) Develop criteria for which a County-owned and/or managed building or space could qualify as potential exhibit space, and identify such County-owned and/or managed-facilities;

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- 3) Examine the feasibility of utilizing County websites, for both internal (County employees) and external (the public) audiences, to share and relay information related to art, culture, topical and historic exhibits at County-owned and/or managed facilities, as well as to serve as a link to other events and activities throughout the County;
- 4) Develop a proposed annual budget; and
- 5) Report back to the Board in writing in 90 days.

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